

and host countries, the Peace Corps is well-positioned to continue to expand its ranks for many years to come.

The work of the Peace Corps has never been more relevant than it is today. Americans are interested in humanitarian service, and host countries are eager for our volunteers. Peace Corps volunteers share their time and talents by serving as teachers, business advisors, information technology consultants, health and HIV/AIDS educators, and youth and agriculture workers. These volunteers transfer life-changing knowledge and skills that are valued by the people of other nations. In its tenure this institution has become vital to the well-being of our country and to the international community.

During this week, we salute the men and women of this nation who selflessly serve abroad as Peace Corps Volunteers.

Recently, I had the opportunity to honor Sergeant Shiver, the organizer and first director of the Peace Corps. His lifelong service is only one shining example of the quality of individuals the Peace Corps recruits. He, as well as many other members of the Peace Corps, has shown that one dedicated individual can create positive change in the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues in support of National Peace Corps Week and honor past and present volunteers who carry out the Peace Corps' goals and who continue to empower people in developing and developed countries through their efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, on March 9, 2004, this Member unavoidably missed three roll call votes. On all three votes, this Member would have voted "aye," had he been present. The three votes were: 1. Rollcall No. 42, passage of H. Res. 519, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the earthquake that occurred in San Luis Obispo County, California on December 22, 2003; 2. Rollcall No. 43, passage of H. Res. 392, a resolution congratulating the Detroit Shock for winning the 2003 Womens National Basketball Association championship; and 3. Rollcall No. 44, passage of H. Res. 475, congratulating the San Jose Earthquakes for winning the 2003 Major League Soccer Cup.

IN HONOR OF FATHER JOHN J. CREGAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Father John J. Cregan, Pastor of Our Lady of Angels Church of Cleveland, Ohio, as he is being honored for his significant outreach and committed service to the people of our Cleveland community.

For more than 40 years Father Cregan has served as a spiritual guide, healer and be-

loved mentor and friend to countless families and individuals. Since 1968, Father Cregan has served as a dedicated advocate of spirituality, faith and counsel to members of our safety forces. In his role as Catholic Chaplain for the Cleveland Police Department and the Fraternal Order of Police, and as Spiritual Director of the Greater Cleveland Police and Fire Society, he continues to provide direction, hope and comfort to the men and women who so bravely and selflessly serve our community.

Father Cregan's journey of service to others began with his ordination at St. John's Cathedral on May 20, 1961. His kind, compassionate and gentle nature has touched the lives of countless families and individuals in every parish he has served. For more than twenty years, Father Cregan led the congregation at Blessed Sacrament Parish, first as Assistant Pastor, then as Pastor. Father Cregan also served as Associate Pastor at St. Joseph Parish and St. Thomas More Parish. In 1987, Father Cregan was named Pastor of Our Lady of Angels Church in Cleveland, where he continues to today—providing solace and strength to this parish community.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and gratitude of Father John J. Cregan, whose compassion, commitment and energy continues to create a haven of assistance, hope and renewal for every member of Our Lady of Angels parish and for countless members of our safety forces. Father Cregan's vision, leadership, and love for others brings light, hope and possibility to Cleveland's West Park neighborhood, and strengthens our entire community. Today, we express our gratitude to Father Cregan for making a difference throughout the Cleveland area community.

RECOGNITION OF ALBERT M. ELÍAS

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Albert M. Elías for 50 years of service to organized labor and to the progressive political community in Tucson and Pima County as a member of International Typographical Union/Communications Workers of America Local 7026.

Albert M. Elías represents the highest ideals of the labor movement. While others talk about the need for a strong labor movement to protect and enhance the lives of working people, Albert, for more than 50 years, has worked to advance these goals. While others have talked about how Pima County and southern Arizona need progressive political success to empower the ordinary and disadvantaged among us, Albert has worked long hours helping politicians and movements advocate on behalf of these people.

Using the printing skills he has honed for most of his life, the knowledge he has gained over more than five decades of how the printed word can help realize worthy goals, and the personal contacts his honesty, integrity and goodwill have forged, Albert has achieved much and has helped others achieve even more in advancing political movements, and the labor movement in particular.

Albert, 75, a fourth-generation Tucson native, joined the International Typographical Union of his maternal grandfather Francisco S. Moreno in January 1954 and committed himself to a career in the printing trade. Albert believed that union membership would improve the professional quality of his work as a printer, and enable him to develop meaningful, long-term relationships in his community that would benefit himself and his family, as well as his union brothers and sisters. Union membership, he believed, also would provide him with better income and with vacations and holidays off to spend quality time with his family. It was Albert's goal to provide his children with the wherewithal to excel in education through high school and go on to college if they desired.

Time proved Albert to be correct. All three of the children of he and his wife Viola Baine are college graduates who are serving others in pursuit of their careers. Their eldest, Ana Elías Terry, has a master's degree from the University of Arizona and has worked as a bilingual speech therapist for Tucson Unified School District for 22 years. Son Albert is also a University of Arizona graduate and has been an urban planner for almost 20 years with the City of Tucson, where he is now the planning director. Son Richard parlayed his University of Arizona degree into winning election to the Pima County Board of Supervisors and becoming its vice chair.

Albert and his sister Aida Elías, the children of Alberto Spring Elías and Ermelinda Moreno Elías, always have lived their lives as Christians and are dedicated to their religious faith. Albert has maintained an active lifetime role in his Roman Catholic parish, based at St. Augustine's Cathedral in downtown Tucson. He served for many years as a member of its Parish Council.

Albert's interest in the printing trade goes back to his childhood in the 1930s. His grandfather Moreno had begun publishing the Spanish-language *El Tucsonense* weekly newspaper as a member of the Typographical Union in 1915, but he died an early death in 1929. *El Tucsonense* continued publication under ownership of his wife, Rosa E. Moreno, and with the help of her five children—Ermelinda, Gilberto, Federico, Arturo and Elías. Before Albert's 10th birthday he was delivering *El Tucsonense* by bicycle to the Latino barrios that dominated much of downtown Tucson. He worked his way into the print shop during his years at Tucson High School to be a "printer's devil," sweeping the floors, cleaning presses, and remelting the lead used to make ingots for the shop's linotype machines.

After graduating from Tucson High School in January 1947, Albert went to the Frank Wiggins Trade School in Los Angeles to learn more about printing. After completing those studies in 1948, Albert went to work in the print shop that published *El Tucsonense*, now being run by his uncle Arturo Moreno. That ended in late 1951 when Albert was drafted into the U.S. Army. He served in the infantry for two years before being honorably discharged. After his discharge, Albert returned to Tucson. But instead of rejoining *El Tucsonense*, Albert sought membership in the Typographical Union as a journeyman, skipping apprenticeship because of his experience. His skills earned him a position as a linotype operator in early 1954 with the Tucson daily newspapers, *The Arizona Daily Star* and *Tucson Citizen*.